

NASA WEAR

FAQ's – NASA WEAR Challenge 2020

Updated: January 2, 2020

- **Can an individual sign up to participate in WEAR?** No. The WEAR challenge is designed as a team competition and to involve as many students as possible. Although several constraints limit the number and age of participants in the culminating event, teams should recruit enough team members to work on the various aspects of the challenge. Experience shows that most successful teams have at least 15-20 students and 3-5 Educator Coaches active during the challenge.
- **How much does it cost to participate?** There are no direct costs to participate in WEAR. There is no registration fee and the top teams that travel to a NASA center will have their basic travel costs covered. There are some indirect costs to participating. There may be a need to purchase some materials and supplies, but we encourage the principle of reuse and repurpose to keep costs to a minimum.
- **May a team participate if they have participated before?** Yes. Institutions that have participated before and students that have participated before may participate in new WEAR challenges. However, new students and at least one new educator should participate in the culminating event if a team is selected. Please share the unique opportunity of the culminating event with new participants.
- **How many students should be on a team?** Teams should include as many youth as possible on a team. Participation can be in one aspect of the challenge or several. The more students that participate helps the team compete.
- **My organization does not have a shop or technology lab, how can we participate?** You may collaborate with other organizations that may have the resources you need. For example, many public libraries now have maker spaces that may be used. Maybe you can collaborate with a local business for mentorship as well as other support.
- **Can an educational institution support more than one team?** YES
- **Can informal institutions participate?** YES
- **How do middle school students compete with high school students?** They don't. Middle school will compete against middle school and high school will compete against high school.
- **How many students can be on a team?** As many as you want. The only exceptions are for the representative teams that travel to a NASA center.
- **When will the proposals be due?** March 2020
- **How many students can take the webinars and the badge?** Webinars and badges are open to as many educators and students as possible. There may be some limits due to

technology for webinars but there is no limit on badges as you work through them at your own pace.

- **Do the teachers only have to take the webinar and do the badge? We don't have to send a written proposal.** We are asking the educators to take only the Moon to Mars webinar. The other webinars and badges are available to help with research and open to both educators and students. There is no full, written proposal due from students; we are using the video process for this challenge. Note: There may be some proposal documents to be submitted, such as drawings, instructions, etc.
- **How much does participating cost?** Costs should be minimal. If selected, NASA will pay for travel and hotel, plus reimburse meals and some incidental fees, e.g. baggage, parking. Since models are low fidelity, material cost should be minimal as well, especially if students work with recycled materials.
- **How much time will it take?** This one will vary from team to team depending on team size, sponsoring institution, design concept, etc.
- **What are the benefits of participating?** Students will earn experience with practical engineering processes, research, meet NGSS standards, and develop 21st Century skills. Teachers will have the opportunity to work with students and learn engineering skills, participate in webinars that can be used for continuing education or professional development credits. Selected teams will visit a NASA center.